



SURE OF IT? SURE, I AM SURE OF IT! I SHOW YOU. JUST STRAP DER HEAD BAND DOWN, UND I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO MOVE A INCH.

#### GOOD IDEA

He entered the meteorological office, and said, in his jerky way:

"This here's where you give out weather predictions, ain't it?"

The clerk nodded.

"Well," continued the old man, "I though as how I would come up and give you some useful tips."

"Yes?" said the clerk, politely.

"I've watched very carefully, an' I find that ye ain't always right."

"No; we sometimes make mistakes."

"Course you do. We all do sometimes. Now, I was thinkin' as how a line that used to be on the auction handbills down in our county might do fust-rate on your weather predictions, and save you a lot of explainin'."

"What was the line?"

"Wind an' weather permittin'."

He went down without waiting to say good-bye.

#### AN UNEXPECTED GIFT

He was a shy young man, but in his heart there raged a consuming passion for the fair Florence. On his way home from the city he managed to screw his courage up sufficiently to enter a jeweler's shop and purchase a small gift for the lady of his heart.

This, he hoped, would pave the way to the popping of the great question.

That night he called at her house and found her alone. Producing a small, square box from his pocket, he said nervously:

"I have ventured to bring you a small present, Miss Finn, but I am afraid that perhaps it will not fit your finger. Will you try it on?"

"Oh, dear," said the girl, blushing most becomingly, "this is quite unexpected! Why, I never dreamed that you really cared enough—"

Poor fool! Instead of grasping the opportunity in both hands, he opened the box and produced a thimble! Then the thermometer dropped about ten degrees!

#### THE OTHER END

"There, lad, 'tis a bonnie lass you've married, and I wish you both joy," said the old minister, as he gazed at the beaming faces of the young couple he had just united.

"You're getting to end of all your troubles now," he added encouragingly to the bridegroom.

Time went on, as time will, and a few months later the old minister met the young fellow who had started matrimony with such a smiling face.

"You look pretty miserable, my friend," said he.

"Well I might," came the sulky answer. "I thought you told me in the church as how I'd got to the end of all my troubles."

"Ah, so I did, lad," said the minister, with a glimmer in his eye, "but I didn't say which end!"